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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,332	01/11/2002	Luc Jean Langouet	0284-0004	4420

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EXAMINER

KOBERT, RUSSELL MARC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2829

DATE MAILED: 01/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/042,332	Applicant(s) LANGOUET ET AL.	
	Examiner Russell M Kobert	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 12-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 12-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>7-23-02</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Applicant's election of Invention I, claims 1-4, in the Election filed October 29, 2003 is acknowledged. It is further noted that Applicant has canceled the remaining non-elected claims 5-11 and has added new claims 12-20 that appear to read on the elected Invention. For purposes of examination, claims 1-4 and 12-20 will be examined. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it fails to contain at least 50 words.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

3. Claims 1-4 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter

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which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 1, it is not clear if a receiver is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of the fin-shaped guide for guiding the base into a receiver. In claim 12, it is not clear if an electrical connector is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of a base comprising a housing having an opening for accommodating at least one electrical connector. Moreover, in claim 12, it is not clear if electrical cables are part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use for the bushing for receiving electrical cables and a clamp for securing electrical cables. In claim 13, it is not clear if a connector module is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of the base comprising a housing having at least one hole for mounting a connector module. Moreover, in claim 13, it is not clear if electrical cables are part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use for the bushing for receiving electrical cables and a clamp for securing electrical cables. In claim 14 it is not clear if an electrical connector is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of a base comprising a housing having an opening for accommodating at least one electrical connector. Moreover, in claim 14, it is not clear if electrical cables are part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use for the bushing for receiving electrical cables and a clamp for securing electrical cables. In claim 19, it is not clear if a connector module is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of the base comprising a housing having at least one hole for mounting a connector module. Moreover, in claim 19, it is not clear if electrical cables are part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use for the bushing for receiving electrical cables and a clamp for securing

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electrical cables. In claim 20 it is not clear if an electrical connector is part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use of a base comprising a housing having an opening for accommodating at least one electrical connector. Moreover, in claim 20, it is not clear if electrical cables are part of the claimed invention as the claim asserts intended use for the bushing for receiving electrical cables and a clamp for securing electrical cables. Additionally, having a "flat surfaced for receiving a cover" does not add patentable weight to the meets and bounds of the invention described in claim 1. In summary, intended use as noted supra, does not add patentable weight to the disclosed invention.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4 and 12-14, 16, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rider et al (5080604).

Rider et al anticipates (Figure 1 using the alternate embodiment of Figure 6) a modular interface test adapter comprising:

a base (70 / 270) comprising a means for accommodating (84 / 278) at least one electrical connector (54), at least one pivot tab (290) projecting therefrom, a fin-shaped guide (72 / 272) for guiding the base into a receiver, a locking latch mechanism (280,

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282, 288); and a tongue and groove structure (78, 80 / 274, 276) or flat surface for receiving a cover (any other part of the base of Rider et al abutting the cover);

a cover (22 / 222) having a tongue and groove structure (46 and "surface angles"; see col 8, ln 64 – col 9, ln 2) for mating with said tongue and groove structure of said base; wherein said cover is removable from said base; and

a bushing (100; see Figures 1-3) comprising a housing (102) having an opening (106, 110) therein for receiving electrical cables (150), means for securing (130, 132) said housing to said base (post receiving apertures 36) or said cover; and a clamp (122, 168, 170), for securing electrical cables in said opening in said housing; wherein said bushing is separable from said cover and said base; as recited in claims 1, 12, 13, 14, 19 and 20.

As to claim 16, having a means for receiving a cover comprises a flat surface and a means for receiving comprises a flat surface is shown as any other part of Rider et al that does not include the tongue and groove structure (78, 80 / 274, 276) and is considered an inherent characteristic of Rider et al.

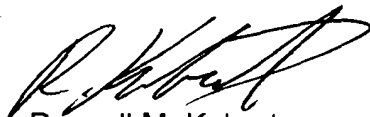
6. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s) from the date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Russell Kobert whose telephone number is (703) 308-5222. *Starting January 12, 2004, the new telephone number will be (571) 272-1963.*

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The Examiner's Supervisor, Kammie Cuneo, can be reached at (703) 308-1233.
Starting January 12, 2004, the new telephone number will be (571) 272-1957.

For an automated menu of Tech Center 2800 phone numbers call (571) 272-2800.



Russell M. Kobert
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2829
January 8, 2004

